

## **REMARKS**

Claims 4-15 and 20-23 remain pending in this application. Claims 4, 12, 13, and 14 are independent.

Claims 4-7 and 12-15 have been allowed.

Claim 8 has been amended to revert it back to its original dependent claim language and now be dependent from allowed Claim 4, and should therefore be in condition for allowance.

Claim 9, being dependent on Claim 8 should also now be allowable.

The examiner's attention is drawn to the fact that Claims 10 and 11 draw their dependency from allowed Claim 4 (not rejected Claim 8) and should therefore have been allowed in the most recent office action.

Claims 20 and 21 have been added using the language of original Claims 10 and 11 and are dependent from allowed independent Claim 12, and therefore do not contain any "new matter" and should be in condition for allowance. Similarly, Claims 22 and 23 use the language of original Claims 10 and 11 and are dependent from allowed independent Claim 13, and therefore do not contain any "new matter" and should be in condition for allowance.

A fee for the three additional claims over 20 is enclosed.

Applicant reserves the right to further prosecute the cancelled claims and any other broad claims supported by the disclosure in continuing applications.

In light of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully requests early allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



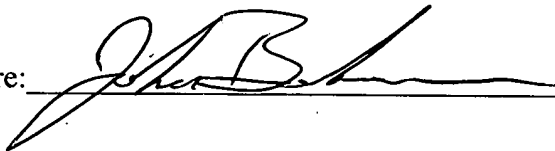
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 3, 2006, by John D. Buchaca, Reg. No. 37,289.

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Date: August 3, 2006